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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,278	07/10/2003	Stephen Varghese Samuel	FGT 1690 PA	2451

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JUSTIN H. PURCELL
ARTZ & ARTZ, P.C.
SUITE 250
28333 TELEGRAPH ROAD
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48034

EXAMINER

TRAN, DALENA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3661

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/617,278	Applicant(s) SAMUEL ET AL.	
	Examiner Dalena Tran	Art Unit 3661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 7-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6,20 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 21 and 22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 9/23/05. Claim 3 has been amended. Claims 1-23 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 3, and 5-6, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Winner et al. (6,810,311).

As per claim 3, Winner et al. disclose a sensor offset correction method for a vehicle comprising: generating a first offset correction signal for a vehicle dynamic sensor at a sensor power up (see column 4, lines 31-52), generating a second offset correction signal for vehicle dynamic sensor when the vehicle is moving (see columns 7-8, lines 34-7), correcting vehicle dynamic sensor in response to at least one of first offset correction signal and second offset correction signal (see columns 6-7, lines 58-34). Winner et al. disclose stopping the vehicle, and delaying generating third offset correction signal thereby reducing influence of transient signals on third offset correction signal (see columns 8-9, lines 8-41).

As per claims 5-6, Winner et al. disclose delaying generating third offset correction signal until vehicle turning has ceased, and compensating for an initialization occurring during a

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vehicle turn table event when the vehicle is standing still following said initialization (see columns 8-9, lines 8-41).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 23, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winner et al. (6,810,311) in view of Burgdorf et al. (US 2003/0109939 A1).

As per claim 23, Winner et al. disclose a control system for an automotive vehicle having a vehicle body comprising: cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors position within the vehicle body adapted to generate a plurality of vehicle dynamic signals (see column 4, lines 31-52; and column 5, lines 1-15), a controller adapted to generate a first offset correction signal for one of cluster of said vehicle dynamic sensors in response to a DC bias and at a sensor power-up (see column 4, lines 53-67), controller further adapted to generate a third offset correction signal for one of said cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors when the vehicle is at rest and one of cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors is below an accuracy threshold (see columns 6-7, lines 58-33; and column 10, lines 20-48), controller delaying generating third offset correction signal until vehicle turning has ceased, and compensating for an initialization occurring during a vehicle turn table event when the vehicle is standing still following initialization, controller further adapted to correct one of cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors in response to said first offset correction signal, said second offset correction signal and third offset correction signal (see columns 8-9, lines

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8-42). Winner et al. do not disclose controller further adapted to generate a second offset correction signal for one of cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors in response to a signal equivalent to a temperature drift signal and when the vehicle is moving. However, Burgdorf et al. disclose controller further adapted to generate a second offset correction signal for one of cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors in response to a signal equivalent to a temperature drift signal and when the vehicle is moving (see the abstract; [0007] through [0012]; and [0029] through [0038]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Madau et al. by combining controller further adapted to generate a second offset correction signal for one of cluster of vehicle dynamic sensors in response to a signal equivalent to a temperature drift signal and when the vehicle is moving for accurately determining the offset value of the output signal of a vehicle sensor.

6. Claim 20, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winner et al. (6,810,311) in view of Burgdorf et al. (US 2003/0109939 A1), and Fukuyama (6366833).

As per claim 20, Winner et al. disclose a sensor offset correction method for a vehicle comprising: generating a first offset correction signal for a vehicle dynamic sensor at a sensor power-up in response to a DC bias (see column 10, lines 20-48), generating a third offset correction signal for vehicle dynamic sensor when the vehicle is at rest and vehicle dynamic sensor is below an accuracy threshold (see columns 6-7, lines 57-33), correcting vehicle dynamic sensor in response to first offset correction signal, and third offset correction signal, and delaying generating third offset correction signal until vehicle turning has ceased (see columns 8-9, lines 8-42), and compensating for an initialization occurring during a vehicle turn table event when the vehicle is standing still following initialization (see columns 5-6, lines 15-57). Winner et al. do

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not disclose generating a temperature drift signal, and a second offset correction signal.

However, Burgdorf et al. disclose generating a temperature drift signal for sensor, and generating a second offset correction signal for vehicle dynamic sensor when the vehicle is moving in response to temperature drift signal (see [0007] through [0012]; and [0029] through [0038]), and correcting vehicle dynamic sensor in response to second offset correction signal (see [0057] through [0065]). Winner et al. do not disclose generating third offset correction signal in response to vehicle dynamic sensor indicating a change in lateral acceleration or longitudinal acceleration. However, Fukuyama discloses generating third offset correction signal in response to vehicle dynamic sensor indicating a change in lateral acceleration or longitudinal acceleration (see columns 7-9, lines 30-8; and columns 12-13, lines 11-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Winner et al. by combining generating a third offset correction signal for vehicle dynamic sensor when the vehicle is at rest and generating third offset correction signal in response to vehicle dynamic sensor indicating a change in lateral acceleration or longitudinal acceleration for determining an acceptable range for the vehicle offset correction signal.

7. Claim 4, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winner et al. (6,810,311) in view of Fukuyama (6366833).

As per claim 4, Winner et al. do not disclose wherein generating said third offset correction signal. However, Fukuyama discloses generating third offset correction signal in response to vehicle dynamic sensor indicating a change in lateral acceleration or longitudinal acceleration (see columns 7-9, lines 30-8; and columns 12-13, lines 11-22). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach

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of Winner et al. by combining generating third offset correction signal in response to vehicle dynamic sensor indicating a change in lateral acceleration or longitudinal acceleration for determining an acceptable range for the vehicle offset correction signal.

8. Claims 21-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-2, and 7-19 are allowable.

Remarks

9. Applicant's argument filed on 9/23/05 has been fully considered. Upon updated search, the new ground of rejection has been set forth as above.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalena Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-6968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 AM-4:00 PM), off every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Black can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner

Dalena Tran



December 7, 2005